



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Directorate B. Quality, Research & Innovation, Outreach
The Director

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SUMMARY RECORD

Meeting of the Committee on Organic Production

27 and 28 November 2019

Chair: Nathalie SAUZE-VANDEVYVER, Nicolas VERLET

Delegations present: All Member States. Norway was present as observer.

A. PROPOSED MEASURES ON WHICH AN OPINION MAY BE REQUESTED

A.1. Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) amending and correcting Regulation (EC) No 1235/2008 laying down detailed rules for implementation of Council Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 as regards the arrangements for imports of organic products from thirds countries - D064717/02

The outcome of the vote is positive. 25 Member States voted in favour, 1 against, 2 abstained.

B. POINTS FOR DISCUSSION AND/OR FOR INFORMATION

B.1. Implementing acts on trade

Article 45(4) of Regulation (EU) 2018/848 regarding the content of certificates and the procedure for issuance and verification.

Article 46(1) of Regulation (EU) 2018/848 regarding the future implementing act setting up the procedures leading to the recognition, and the withdrawal, of control authorities or control bodies competent to carry out controls and to issue organic certificates.

Article 46(7)(a) of Regulation (EU) 2018/848 regarding the criteria for the recognition and the withdrawal of the control authorities or the control bodies

B.2. Guidelines on additional controls

Commission presented the updated version of the guidelines on additional controls following the contributions received from MS. The scope of the guidelines was discussed in terms of products and the number of samples, which should be taken by CBs and MS. The Commission gave explanations on sampling. Furthermore, it was discussed when the certificate of inspection should be signed. Following the discussion, the Commission made some changes to the guidelines and to the letter. The COP agreed to continue the additional controls.

B.3. Other international issues

- Letters of interpretation
- State of play

B.4. OFIS

- update

B.5. Irregularities EU & INTC

The Commission presented an overview of the the main consistency problems that emerged in the analysis OFIS cases.

Member States were debriefed on the OPSON VIII operation.

B.6. Commission Implementing Regulation on labelling rules relative to Regulation (EU) 2018/848 on organic production and labelling of organic products and repealing Council Regulation (EC) 834/2007 – D065081/01

The Commission presented the future secondary legal provisions on labelling to the Member States. Several Member States highlighted the difficult situation for organic producers following the future prohibition to label certain feed as “may be used in organic production”.

B.7. Authorisation of non-organic ingredients

The Commission presented an overview of the national authorisations of non-organic agricultural ingredients to the delegations, in order to analyse the current scenario. A second presentation explained the legal requirements which provide that the authorisation of non-organic agricultural ingredients at EU or at national level cannot circumvent the limitation of specific ingredients such as additives, micronutrients or colorant. Based on this and on the previous requests and comments from the Member States, the Commission presented a draft list of non-organic agricultural ingredients that would be authorised at EU level in January 2023.

B.8. Review of the annex on cleaning and disinfectants (Annex VII)

Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) .../... of XXXX amending Regulation (EC) No 889/2008 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of Council Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 on organic production and labelling of organic products with regard to organic production, labelling and control - PLAN/2018/3293

The Commission presented the priority substances submitted by several Member States; the dossiers received and the way forward will be discussed with EGTOP in January.

B.9. Letters of interpretation

The Commission brought the attention to the content of recent replies uploaded in CIRCA BC concerning: terpenes, corn starch used as fertiliser, EU bio logo use, rice starch used in mould, demand to share Commission replies, insects in organic production, microalgae production rules, feed material of mineral origin quartz. In addition, the Commission referred to the considerations received from MS on the use of conventional straw and underlined the responsibility of operators to limit off-farm inputs and avoid any potential contamination of parcels and productive cycle. On a question related to whether low energy electrons technique applied as disinfectant on seeds could be approved in organic production, the Commission recalled the general prohibition of using any ionizing radiation and need to deepen the nature of the mentioned technique through thorough EGTOP assessment.

B.10. Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) amending Regulation (EC) No 889/2008 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of Council Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 on organic production and labelling of organic products with regard to organic production, labelling and control - D059744

The Commission presented the list of issues still pending after the vote. They will be taken into account in the next amendment.

B.11. EGTOP

The Commission presented future group meetings and mandates.

B.12. Implementing act on controls

Commission Implementing Regulation on control rules relative to Regulation (EU) 2018/848 of the European Parliament and of the Council on organic production and labelling of organic products and repealing Council Regulation (EC) 834/2007 - D065042

- Article 28(3)(a) - Precautionary measures

- Article 29(8)(a) - Methodology for detection and evaluation of non-
authorised products and substances
- Article 34(9) - Notification of operators
- Article 35(10) - Certificate
- Article 36(4)(a)(b)(c) - Group of operators
- Article 38(9) - Additional rules on official controls
- Article 39(2) - Records keeping, declaration and practical measures
- Article 41(5) - Uniform arrangements in relation to non-compliance
(catalogue of measures)
- Article 43(7) - Exchange of information

B.13. AOB



Nathalie SAUZE- VANDEVYVER

List of participants– Summary Record
Meeting of the Committee on Organic Production
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MEMBER STATE	Ministry Or Organisation	NUMBER OF PERSONS
BE	Departement Landbouw en Visserij	1
	DG Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environment	1
BG	Permanent Representation	1
CZ	Ministry of Agriculture	1
DK	Danish Veterinary and Food Administration	1
	Danish Agricultural Agency	1
DE	Bundesanstalt für Landwirtschaft und Ernährung	2
	Landesamt für Natur, Umwelt und Verbraucherschutz	1
EE	Ministry of Rural Affairs	1
IE	DAFM	2
EL	Ministry of Rural Development and Food	1
	P.R.	1
ES	Generalitat Valenciana	1
	Ministerio de Agricultura, Pesca y Alimentacion	2
FR	INAO	2
	Ministère de l’Agriculture et de l’Alimentation	1
	Ministère de l’Economie	1
HR	Ministry of Agriculture	2
IT	MIPAAF	2
CY	P.R.	1
LV	P.R.	1
LT	Ministry of Agriculture	1
LU	Administration des services techniques de l’Agriculture	1
HU	Ministry of Agriculture	1
MT	Ministry for the Environment, Sustainable Development and Climate change	1
NL	Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality	1
	Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate	1
AT	AGES	1
	BMNT	1
PL	Agricultural and Food Quality inspection	1

	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	1
PT	DGADR	1
RO	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	1
SI	MAFF	1
SK	Central Control and Testing Institute in Agriculture	1
FI	Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry	1
SE	Swedish Board of Agriculture	1
	Swedish Food Agency	1
UK	DEFRA	2
NO	Norwegian Food Safety Authority	1
	Norwegian Ministry of Agriculture and Food	1
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